

REMARKS

The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claims 1-4 and 10-16 are requested to be cancelled without prejudice.

Claims 46-48 are being added. No new matter has been added.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate status identifier. After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 5-9, and 17-48 are now pending in this application.

In section 1 of the Office Action, the Examiner issued a restriction requirement between group I (Claims 1-4, 10-16) and group II (Claims 5-9, 17-44). In section 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that "claim 45 is genus to either group I or [g]roup II and will be examined with the elected invention." In response to the restriction requirement, the Applicants elect to prosecute group II and claim 45 without traverse. Additionally, the Applicants believe that new claims 46-48 are directed toward the single group consistent with group II as identified by the Examiner. Claims 1-4 and 10-16 in group I have been cancelled without prejudice.

The Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

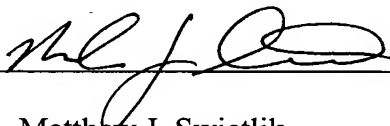
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 06-1447.

If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, the Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and authorize payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 06-1447.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 5/5/2006

By



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